

Message Text

SECRET

PAGE 01 STATE 141742
ORIGIN PM-04

INFO OCT-01 AF-10 NEA-10 ISO-00 NSC-05 SP-02 SS-15
L-03 PRS-01 CIAE-00 INR-07 NSAE-00 IGA-02 /060 R

DRAFTED BY PM/ISO:JEBURGESS:ML

APPROVED BY NEA:SSO0ER

NEA/RA - R.HOBBS

AF/I - F. WIRKUS

OSD/ISA - R.ZWART

-----181410Z 130163 /43

R 172347Z JUN 77

FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO AMEMBASSY TEHRAN

AMEMBASSY JIDDA

AMEMBASSY NAIROBI

AMEMBASSY ISLAMABAD

AMEMBASSY SANA

AMEMBASSY MUSCAT

AMEMBASSY KHARTOUM

INFO AMEMBASSY ADDIS ABABA

AMEMBASSY MANAMA

AMCONSUL KARACHI

USINT BAGHDAD

AMEMBASSY KUWAIT

AMEMBASSY DOHA

AMEMBASSY MOGADISCIO

AMEMBASSY VICTORIA

AMEMBASSY NEW DELHI

AMEMBASSY COLOMBO

AMEMBASSY ABU DHABI

CINCUSNAVEUR

CINCPACFLT

COMIDEASTFOR

SECDEF

JCS

CNO

SECRET

SECRET

PAGE 02 STATE 141742

S E C R E T STATE 141742

ADDIS POUCH TO AMCONSUL DJIBOUTI

E.O. 11652: XGDS-1

TAGS: MORG, MOPS, IR, SA, KE, PK, YE, MU, SU, ET, BA

SUBJECT: MIDDLE EAST FORCE - THE NEW FORMAT

'''

REF: A. STATE 030235 B. CINCPACFLT 270218Z MAY 77

C. MANAMA 1276

1. NEGOTIATIONS WITH BAHRAIN ON THE FUTURE OF OUR NAVAL PRESENCE THERE ARE PROCEEDING SMOOTHLY. WE ANTICIPATE THAT EFFECTIVE JUNE 30, 1977 MIDDLE EAST FORCE WILL BE DEHOMEPORTED FROM BAHRAIN, THAT A SMALL SHORE SUPPORT FACILITY AND THE COMMANDER'S AIRCRAFT WILL REMAIN IN PLACE, AND THAT THE COMMAND WILL MOVE TO AN AFLOAT MODE, WITH PERSONNEL ON UNACCOMPANIED TOURS OF DUTY. WE ALSO ANTICIPATE BAHRAINI APPROVAL FOR MIDEASTFOR FLAGSHIP (USS LA SALLE) TO REMAIN IN-PORT THERE FOR A MINIMUM OF FOUR MONTHS PER YEAR. (DOWN FROM SIX PLUS MONTHS IN THE PAST.)

2. BASED ON ASSUMPTION THAT THESE ELEMENTS OF THE NEW FORMAT WILL BE AGREED, COMIDEASTFOR WILL NEED HENCEFORTH TO BE ABLE TO SCHEDULE A SUPPLEMENTARY SERIES OF TWO WEEK VISITS BY LA SALLE TO OTHER REGIONAL PORTS IN ORDER TO PROVIDE THIS PERMANENTLY DEPLOYED SHIP WITH SUFFICIENT SELF-MAINTENANCE TIME. SOME OF THESE SELF-MAINTENANCE VISITS

WOULD BE CONDUCTED ENTIRELY ALONGSIDE A PIER (OR ALMOST ENTIRELY); OTHERS COULD BE CONDUCTED AT ANCHOR. GENERALLY, THESE EXTENDED PORT CALLS FOR SELF-MAINTENANCE WOULD BE OVER AND ABOVE THE TRADITIONAL SCHEDULE OF SHORT PORT CALLS AND BRIEF STOPS FOR FUEL ROUTINELY PERFORMED BY BOTH THE

SECRET

SECRET

PAGE 03 STATE 141742

FLAGSHIP (USS LA SALLE) AND THE ROTATIONALLY DEPLOYED DESTROYERS OF THE FORCE.

3. FOLLOWING A REPAIR PERIOD IN ITALY, USS LA SALLE IS PRESENTLY SCHEDULED TO TRANSIT THE SUEZ CANAL SOUTHBOUND ON SEPT. 16, 1977, TO REMAIN THEREAFTER IN THE PERSIAN GULF/INDIAN OCEAN REGION. ONLY FLAGSHIP PORT VISITS NOW UNDER CONSIDERATION FOR LATTER PORTION OF FY 77 ARE SHORT CALLS AT DJIBOUTI (21-23 SEPTEMBER) AND HODEIDA (26-27 SEPTEMBER.) THUS FY 78 WILL BE FIRST YEAR UNDER NEW FORMAT

4. IN LIGHT OF EMBASSY RESPONSES TO REF A, DEPT AND DOD ENVISION DERIVING A SATISFACTORY ANNUAL SPREAD OF FLAGSHIP TWO-WEEK SELF-MAINTENANCE PERIODS FROM THE FOLLOWING LIST:

PORT	MAINTENANCE PERIODS
------	---------------------

BANDAR ABBAS	1
--------------	---

DAMMAN	1
--------	---

JIDDA	1
MOMBASA	0 OR 1
MUSCAT	1
HODEIDA	0 OR 1
PORT SUDAN	0 OR 1
KARACHI	1
BUSHIRE	1

5. TENTATIVE SCHEDULE PROPOSED REF B, DOES NOT NOW REFLECT ALL FLAGSHIP MAINTENANCE PERIODS REQUIRED TO PUT QUOTE NEW FORMAT UNQUOTE CONCEPT ON AS FIRM A FOOTING AS POSSIBLE. ALL ADDRESSEE EMBASSIES EXCEPT ISLAMABAD SHOULD APPROACH RESPECTIVE HOST GOVERNMENTS TO DETERMINE THEIR RECEPTIVITY TO TWO-WEEK PORT VISITS FOR FLAGSHIP SELF-MAINTENANCE AS OUTLINED IN PARA 4.

6. FOR ISLAMABAD: WE BELIEVE THIS IS NOT APPROPRIATE TIME
SECRET

SECRET

PAGE 04 STATE 141742

TO APPROACH GOP ON THIS SUBJECT. WOULD WELCOME YOUR VIEWS ON PROSPECTS.

7. FOR DJIBOUTI: WE WILL AWAIT ASSESSMENT OF CLIMATE FOR FUTURE USN SHIP VISITS BEFORE ADDING DJIBOUTI TO SCHEDULE FOR FLAGSHIP MAINTENANCE PERIODS.

8. FOR INFO ADDRESSEES: SINCE SIGNATURE OF A NEW MIDDLE

EAST FORCE AGREEMENT WITH THE GOVERNMENT OF BAHRAIN APPEARS IMMINENT, WE ARE SENDING YOU THIS CABLE SO THAT YOU WILL UNDERSTAND THE NATURE OF THE "NEW FORMAT" WE PLAN FOR MIDDLE EAST FORCE. THIS INFORMATION IS PROVIDED FOR BACKGROUND ONLY. WE ARE ALSO REPEATING FOR ALL ADDRESSEES CABLES CONTAINING A JOINT PRESS STATEMENT WHICH WILL BE RELEASED IN MANAMA AFTER SIGNATURE OF THE NEW AGREEMENT, AND PRESS QS AND AS ON THE "NEW FORMAT". THESE ARE BEING PROVIDED FOR YOUR BACKGROUND INFORMATION SHOULD PRESS INQUIRIES ARISE. VANCE

SECRET

NNN

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01-Jan-1994 12:00:00 am
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: NAVAL FORCES, MILITARY BASES
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Sent Date: 17-Jun-1977 12:00:00 am
Decaption Date: 01-Jan-1960 12:00:00 am
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 22 May 2009
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1977STATE141742
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: JEBURGESS:ML
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: X1
Errors: N/A
Expiration:
Film Number: D770218-1056
Format: TEL
From: STATE
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1977/newtext/t19770643/aaaablyn.tel
Line Count: 157
Litigation Code IDs:
Litigation Codes:
Litigation History:
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Message ID: 8a76827a-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Office: ORIGIN PM
Original Classification: SECRET
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 3
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: SECRET
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: 77 STATE 30235, 77 MANAMA 1276
Retention: 0
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 02-Dec-2004 12:00:00 am
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review Media Identifier:
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
SAS ID: 2106925
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: MIDDLE EAST FORCE - THE NEW FORMAT
TAGS: MORG, MOPS, IR, SA, KE, PK, YE, MU, SU, ET, BA
To: TEHRAN JIDDA MULTIPLE
Type: TE
vdkgvwkey: odb://SAS/SAS.dbo.SAS_Docs/8a76827a-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Review Markings:
Margaret P. Grafeld
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
22 May 2009
Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 22 May 2009